

Appl. No.: 10/734,019
Amdt. dated 02/23/2006
Reply to Office action of September 23, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner indicated in the Office Action dated September 23, 2005 that claims 9 and 10 are allowed, and claims 7 and 8 would be allowable if not dependent on a rejected base claim. Applicants have amended claims 7 and 8 to be in independent form and thus these claims should be allowed. Claims 1-6 are canceled. Based on these amendments, claims 7-10 are pending in the application.

Applicant encloses an Interview Summary reflecting conversations between the Examiner and Applicant's representatives on December 29, 2005 and January 6, 2006. If the Examiner feels that any of the information in this summary is not accurate, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Applicant respectfully submits that all the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. If any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is directed to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to facilitate prosecution of this case.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

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Customer No. 00826 ALSTON & BIRD LLP Bank of America Plaza 101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000 Charlotte, NC 28280-4000 Tel Atlanta Office (404) 881-7000 Fax Atlanta Office (404) 881-7777	CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below. <i>Cynthia V. Hall</i> Cynthia V. Hall <u>Feb. 23, 2006</u> Date
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